

Policy Owner	Louise Beard	Business Area	Safeguarding
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Preventing Violent Extremism Policy

1.0 Aim / Purpose of the Policy

- 1.1 This policy sets out Coastline Housing's approach to preventing radicalisation and protecting individuals from being drawn into violent extremism, in line with statutory safeguarding responsibilities and the Prevent Duty.

The aim is supported by the following objectives:

- to challenge extremist ideology;
- disrupt those who promote violent extremism;
- support individuals who are vulnerable to recruitment by violent extremists;
- increase resilience of communities to engage with and resist violent extremists;
- effectively address grievances;
- develop 'Prevent' related intelligence, analysis and research; and
- improve strategic communications.

- 1.2 This policy applies to:

- All employees, Board members, volunteers and contractors
- All customers, residents and service users
- All service areas across housing, assets and community services

2.0 Background / Introduction

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This guidance is issued under section 29 of the Act. The Act states that the authorities subject to the provisions must have regard to this guidance when carrying out the duty.

- 2.1 The Prevent strategy published by the Government in 2011, is part of the UK Counter-Terrorism Strategy known as Contest. The aim of the Prevent strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In the Act this has simply been expressed as the need to "prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

- 2.2 The strategy involves thousands of people;

- police and intelligence officers;
- the emergency services;
- local authorities;
- businesses;
- voluntary and community organisations; and

Governments and other partners all working in partnership across the UK and the world to protect the public.

2.3 The strategy consists of three key elements:

- Response to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it;
- Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support.;

Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed.

2.4 Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which need to be addressed.

3.0 Legislation, Statutory Regulatory duties & references

3.1 This policy is informed by:

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Prevent Duty)
- UK Government Prevent Strategy
- Care Act 2014 (Safeguarding)
- Regulator of Social Housing Consumer Standards
- Data Protection Act 2018 / UK GDPR

4.0 Main Principles

4.1 Coastline Housing is committed to:

- Treating radicalisation as a safeguarding concern
- Protecting vulnerable individuals from exploitation and harm
- Promoting safe, inclusive and resilient communities
- Working in partnership with statutory agencies
- Ensuring staff are trained to identify and respond to risks
- Interventions will be proportionate, focused on early identification and support, and aligned with safeguarding principles to prevent escalation of risk.

This policy supports Coastline's Safeguarding Adults and Children Policies

5.0 Policy Statements Objectives / Principles

5.1 Definitions

- **Radicalisation:** The process by which someone comes to support extremist ideologies
- **Extremism:** Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values
- **Violent Extremism:** Extremism that advocates or uses violence

5.2 Recognising Risk

Staff should be aware of indicators such as:

- Changes in behaviour or beliefs
- Exposure to extremist materials or online content
- Isolation or increased vulnerability

Indicators must be considered in context and not used to stereotype or profile individuals. Staff should focus on early identification of vulnerability and seek advice where unsure, in line with Prevent best practice.

5.3 **Reporting Concerns**

All concerns must be:

- Reported immediately via Coastline safeguarding procedures
- Recorded accurately and objectively
- Where appropriate, concerns may be referred to the multi-agency Channel Panel, which provides early intervention and support to individuals at risk of radicalisation.

For urgent situations:

- Emergency → 999
- Non-emergency → Prevent / police reporting

Historic direct contact details have been removed to ensure the policy remains current and aligns with internal safeguarding processes.

6.0 **Service Standards (E&D, GDPR etc)**

6.1 **Training and Awareness**

- Where appropriate staff must complete safeguarding and Prevent awareness training
- Enhanced training will be provided for frontline roles
- Refresher training will be delivered periodically

6.2 **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

- The policy will be applied fairly and without discrimination
- Coastline will actively avoid bias or profiling
- Decisions will be evidence-based and proportionate

6.3 **Data Protection and Confidentiality**

- Information will be shared lawfully, proportionately and securely
- All data handling will comply with GDPR requirements

6.4 **Risk Management and Assurance**

Risk Statement

There is a risk that vulnerable individuals may be drawn into extremism due to lack of awareness or intervention, resulting in harm to individuals and potential regulatory or reputational impact.

Three Lines of Assurance

- Operational: Staff training and safeguarding procedures
- Management: Safeguarding oversight and internal review
- Independent: Internal audit and external inspection.

Board/Audit & Risk Committee

- Receive assurance on safeguarding and Prevent-related risks
- Monitor effectiveness through reporting

Executive Team

- Ensure compliance with statutory duties
- Provide organisational leadership

Policy Owner – Director of Housing, Asstes & Communities

- Maintain and review the policy
- Provide assurance to Board and Committees

Managers

- Ensure staff awareness and training
- Support implementation within teams

All Staff

- Remain alert to potential risks
- Report concerns in line with safeguarding procedures

7.0 Cross reference / working in partnership / inks to other Policies**7.1 Coastline Housing will work with:**

- Local authorities
- Police Prevent teams and Channel panels
- Safeguarding partnerships

This reflects the multi-agency approach described within the Prevent strategy and local delivery arrangements.

The [Prevent and radicalisation – Safer Cornwall](#) website contains key contacts, referral routes and supporting guidance.

Staff should make use of Safer Cornwall Prevent guidance, including local toolkits and resources such as 'Act Early', to support identification, reporting and early intervention.

8.0 Monitoring and Review

- Policy will be reviewed every three years or earlier if required
- Assurance will be provided through safeguarding reporting to Board
- Indicators may include:
 - Training completion rates
 - Number of safeguarding concerns raised
 - Staff awareness levels

